



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Jones Training Burn		
PROJECT LOCATION	10488 Converse Road, Coulterville, CA 95311	COUNTY	Mariposa
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Brian Mattos, Unit Forester		
ADDRESS	CAL FIRE Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit Headquarters 5366 Highway 49 North, Mariposa CA 95338	PHONE	(209) 742-1907

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is proposing training burns on approximately 100 acres of pasture land to initiate control of medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*) grass. Units are bounded by cleared ranch roads for control lines and no line construction is required. Firing activities would utilize various hand firing devices in the designated burn blocks. Routine fire control training activities would include mobile attack, hand tool use, and progressive hose lay operations while in a controlled environment. All burning will be performed in accordance with terms and conditions of a burn permit issued by the Mariposa County Air Pollution Control District. If post-burn monitoring indicates reduction in medusahead cover, continued warm season burns may be continued until medusahead is extirpated from the site.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4, §15304 (e): Minor Alterations to Land, Minor temporary use of land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This proposed project is intended to reduce cover of a noxious weed on approximately 100 acres of rangeland. The State of California will not be conducting any ground-disturbing operations, simply burning blocks bounded by existing ranch roads during the typical cultural burning season of these rangelands. Within MMU and statewide the Department is tasked with increasing acres of land treated and this training burn will be another step toward achieving that goal. The project meets the requirements of Class 4, §15304(e): Minor Alteration to the Land Categorical Exemption to CEQA. Class 4 includes minor public or private alterations in the conditions of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no 15300.2. Exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species, or sedimentation to surface waters. CAL FIRE staff has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE Mariposa Headquarters at 5366 State Highway 49 North, Mariposa CA 95338.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JAN 31 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE


Helge Eng, Deputy Director Date 1/28/19
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection